

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /214 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4576

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1382

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, DA, SA, IT, LY

SUBJ: REPORTS OF RECENT ALLIED CONTACTS WITH ARABS

1. AT NATO POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MAR 12, DANISH AND ITALIAN REPS REPORTED ON RECENT CONTACTS WITH SAUDI ARABIA AND LIBYA. DANISH REP INDICATED HIS FONMIN HAD VISITED JIDDA FROM FEB 26 - MAR 2 IN CONNECTION WITH OPENING OF A DANISH TRADE FAIR. FONMIN HAD DISCUSSED MIDDLE EAST DISPUTE WITH KING FAYSAL, AMONG OTHERS, WHO COMPLAINED THAT DANISH PRESS WAS PREJUDICED IN FAVOR OF ISRAEL AND WHO ASKED DENMARK TO DENOUNCE ISRAEL. DANES HAD EXPLAINED BACKGROUND OF PUBLIC AND PRESS SUPPORT FOR THE JEWISH STATE, AND SAUDIS SEEMED TO ACCEPT DANISH SUGGESTION THAT ARAB POSITION WAS NOT AS WELL KNOWN TO PUBLICS. AS TO OFFICIAL ATTITUDE, DANES MAINTAINED THEIR POSITON WAS BASED UPON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 AND OCT EC-9 DECLARATION.

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2. DANES FOUND SAUDIS MODERATELY OPTIMISTIC REGARDING A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. SAUDIS PRAISED THE ROLE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND THE US, AND STRESSED AMERICANS WERE THE KEY TO SETTLEMENT. AS TO THE OIL PROBLEM, SAUDIS FAVORED AMODERATE PRICE POLICY IN

RECOGNITION OF FACT THAT STEEP PRICE INCREASES WOULD DAMAGE INDUSTRIALIZED ECONOMIES AND THEREBY ADVERSELY AFFECT OIL PRODUCERS.

3. DANES HAD MADE NO BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING PETROLEUM SUPPLY, BUT HAD SPOKEN OF COOPERATION WITH THE ARABS IN EC CONTEXT.

4. ITALIAN REP REPORTED THAT LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER JALUD HAD VISITED ROME FROM FEB 21 TO 25. ITALY AND LIBYA HAD REACHED A BROAD FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION ,
TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY LATER SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS.

5. FOR ITS PART, LIBYA AGREED TO SUPPLY ITALY UP TO 30 MILLION TONS OF PETROLEUM YEARLY, IN RETURN, ITALY AGREED TO PROVIDE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, MERCHANT SHIPS INCLUDING TANKERS, AND ASSISTANCE IN AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR LIBYA, AS WELL AS TRAINING FOR LIBYANS. TWO SIDES ALSO AGREED IN PRINIPLE TO JOINT INVESTMENT VENTURES.

6. ITALIAN REP SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO PROFOUND DISCUSSION OF MIDDLE EAST. ITALIANS HAD NOT RAISED THE SUBJECT BECAUSE OF LIBY'S RADICAL POSITION, WHILE JALUD APPEARED TO APPRECIATE ITALY'S FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ARABS.

7. COMMENT: WE ASSUME ABOVE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED ADDRESSEES, BUT REPORT IT AS A POSSIBLE INDICATION THAT ALLIES HAVE GOTTEN US MESSAGE THAT WE CONSIDER CONSULTATIONS, PARTICULARLY CONSULTATIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AS A "TWO-WAY STREET." FRENCH AND ITALIANS HAVE PREVIOUSLY GIVEN COUNCIL REPORTS OF CONTACTS WITH MIDDLE EAST LEADERS, OF COURSE, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE SUCH REPORTS IN VARIOUS NATO COMMITTEES.
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